

THEATRE, BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (B.F.A.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN PERFORMANCE/MUSICAL THEATRE

The Department of Theatre offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts that may be entered into during the third year. All freshman and transfer students entering the department are initially classified as Theatre Foundation students. After successfully completing the first two years of core theatre courses in their foundation areas of emphasis, students apply for admission to a specific degree program (B.F.A. or B.A.). In the B.F.A. students concentrate on areas in performance, including musical theatre, and stage management, as well as three areas of design/technology: scenic, lighting and costume. (See the individual concentration pages for curricular outlines.) Note: Entry into the musical theatre foundation program requires a change of major form.

Student participation in both credit- and noncredit-bearing department activities may be required. Students matriculating in School of the Arts degree programs are bound by the policies and procedures stipulated in this bulletin and in any other current handbook or policy document adopted by the individual programs.

Because of the environment that exists in these preprofessional programs, all aspects of theatre as art, craft, business and education are experienced together. The curriculum immerses students in the practicalities of theatre. Throughout the four years, the performer works daily with voice, body and imagination, while the designer/technician is involved in studio classes and practical application.

Student learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will know and know how to do the following:

- Demonstrate skills and techniques needed to enter the profession as a musical theatre actor
- Demonstrate knowledge of history, theory and literature of theatre and musical theatre and their practical applications

Degree requirements for Theatre, Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) with a concentration in musical theatre performance

Course	Title	Hours
General education (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/)		
Select 30 credits of general education courses in consultation with an adviser.		30
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
THEA 100	Technical Production	1
THEA 111	Fundamentals of Performance	3
THEA 112	Fundamentals of Theatrical Design	3
THEA 211	Introduction to Drama	3

THEA 307	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 308	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 351	Rehearsal and Performance	3
THEA 385	Diverse Voices	3
THEA 495	Senior Project: Portfolio Review	1
• Additional major requirements		
THEA 102	Introduction to Technical Theatre	3
THEA 110	Improvisation	3
THEA 200	Broadway Seminar	1
THEA 201	Voice and Speech for the Actor I	3
THEA 202	Voice and Speech for the Actor II	3
THEA 203	Movement for the Actor I	3
THEA 204	Movement for the Actor II	3
THEA 213	Acting I	3
THEA 214	Acting II	3
THEA 226	Desktop Audio/Video	2
THEA 301	Advanced Voice and Speech for the Actor I	3
THEA 316	Musical Theatre History	3
THEA 317	Musical Theatre Performance I	3
THEA 318	Musical Theatre Performance II	3
THEA 319	Musical Theatre Dance Styles: Landmark Choreographers	2
THEA 417	Cabaret Storytelling	3
THEA 419	Professional Preparation	3
• Major electives		
THEA course (select from 300 or 400 level)		3
Ancillary requirements		
APPL 200	Applied Lessons (repeated for eight credits)	8
APPM 126	Keyboard Fundamentals	1
DANC 121	Tap Technique I	2
or DANC 122	Tap Technique I	
or DANC 151	Jazz Dance Technique I	
or DANC 152	Jazz Dance Technique I	
or DANC 221	Tap Technique II	
or DANC 222	Tap Technique II	
or DANC 255	Hip Hop Dance	
or DANC 256	Hip Hop Dance	
DANC 133	Introduction to Ballet Technique I	2
or DANC 134	Introduction to Ballet Technique II	
MHIS 115	Fundamental Musicianship	2
Open electives		
Select any course.		2
Total Hours		120

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year		
Fall semester		Hours
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
THEA 100	Technical Production	1
THEA 102	Introduction to Technical Theatre	3
THEA 111	Fundamentals of Performance	3
THEA 211	Introduction to Drama	3
UNIV 111	Focused Inquiry I (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry I		

Term Hours: 14

Spring semester		
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
THEA 110	Improvisation	3
THEA 112	Fundamentals of Theatrical Design	3
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry II		
General education course		3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 16

Sophomore year		
Fall semester		Hours
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
THEA 200	Broadway Seminar	1
THEA 201	Voice and Speech for the Actor I	3
THEA 203	Movement for the Actor I	3
THEA 213	Acting I	3
THEA 226	Desktop Audio/Video	2
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3

Term Hours: 16

Spring semester		
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
MHIS 115	Fundamental Musicianship	2
THEA 202	Voice and Speech for the Actor II	3
THEA 204	Movement for the Actor II	3
THEA 214	Acting II	3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 15

Junior year		
Fall semester		Hours
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
DANC 133	Introduction to Ballet Technique I	2
or DANC 134	or Introduction to Ballet Technique II	
THEA 301	Advanced Voice and Speech for the Actor I	3
THEA 307	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 317	Musical Theatre Performance I	3

General education course	3
Term Hours:	15

Spring semester		
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
DANC 121	Tap Technique I	2
or DANC 122	or Tap Technique I	
or DANC 151	or Jazz Dance Technique I	
or DANC 152	or Jazz Dance Technique I	
or DANC 221	or Tap Technique II	
or DANC 222	or Tap Technique II	
or DANC 255	or Hip Hop Dance	
or DANC 256	or Hip Hop Dance	
THEA 308	History of the Theatre	3
THEA 318	Musical Theatre Performance II	3
General education course		3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 15

Senior year		
Fall semester		Hours
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
APPM 126	Keyboard Fundamentals	1
THEA 316	Musical Theatre History	3
THEA 319	Musical Theatre Dance Styles: Landmark Choreographers	2
THEA 385	Diverse Voices	3
THEA 419	Professional Preparation	3
Open elective		2

Term Hours: 15

Spring semester		
APPL 200	Applied Lessons	1
THEA 351	Rehearsal and Performance	3
THEA 417	Cabaret Storytelling	3
THEA 495	Senior Project: Portfolio Review	1
THEA elective (300 or 400 level)		3
General education course		3

Term Hours: 14

Total Hours: 120

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

With permission of instructor, the following graduate courses may be taken by undergraduates for degree credit:

Course	Title	Hours
THEA 501		3
THEA 505	Advanced Scene Design III	3
THEA 506	Advanced Scene Design IV	3

THEA 508	Scene Painting	3
THEA 514		3

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Theatre

THEA 100. Technical Production. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. A crew assignment for a Mainstage production fulfilling all required work and hours of production calls.

THEA 102. Introduction to Technical Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. This course is designed as an introduction to technical theatre for performers. Skills learned in this class will allow the student to become a contributing team member as well as prepare the student for future endeavors requiring basic knowledge of technical theatre. Theatre students enrolled in design/technical production concentrations cannot receive credit for this course.

THEA 103. Stagecraft. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. The fundamental methods, materials and techniques of set construction for the stage. Participation in departmental productions.

THEA 104. Costume Construction. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. The fundamental methods, materials and techniques of costume construction for the stage. Participation in departmental productions.

THEA 105. Advanced Costume Construction. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 104. Focuses on the development of skills needed to function as a stitcher in a theatrical costume shop through practical application of techniques and processes.

THEA 107. Introduction to Stage Performance. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 3 lecture hours. 3, 3 credits. For non-theatre majors. A survey and application of the basic elements in stage performing; acting, scene study, voice and movement.

THEA 108. Introduction to Stage Performance. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 3 lecture hours. 3, 3 credits. For non-theatre majors. A survey and application of the basic elements in stage performing; acting, scene study, voice and movement.

THEA 110. Improvisation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours (delivered online or face-to-face). 3 credits. This course provides students with foundational improv techniques. Students will learn how to apply these techniques to endeavors ranging from artistic to social and beyond.

THEA 111. Fundamentals of Performance. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. Study of foundational acting technique including connections to breath, voice, physicality, ensemble, story and text.

THEA 112. Fundamentals of Theatrical Design. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. An introduction to the history of theatrical design and the importance of collaboration; elements and principles of design and composition, becoming visual storytellers, script analysis for designers, research, and the skills and tools needed as a designer.

THEA 121. Introduction to Drawing. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Open only to theatre majors. An introduction to drawing skills. Topics include line quality and contour, volume, value with shading and crosshatching, texture, space and composition, perspective, gesture, and figure drawing.

THEA 122. Color Theory. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture hours. 2 credits. Open only to theatre majors. An introduction to color theory. Topics covered include how to create different values, hues and intensities, and how to mix color to best express a specific artistic intent.

THEA 161. Figure Drawing: Superficial Anatomy. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 2 credits. Introductory course focused on developing drawings from direct observations of the figure. The specific problem will be the study of superficial anatomy as related to costume design. Various drawing and painting media will be explored.

THEA 162. Figure Drawing: Draping the Human Form. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 2 credits. Focus on developing drawings from direct observations of the figure and folds, students will show the surface influence of superficial anatomy on the draped figure. Various drawing and painting media will be explored.

THEA 191. Topics in Theatre. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 workshop hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Enrollment restricted to theatre majors. Flexible semester course in selected aspects of performance, theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

THEA 200. Broadway Seminar. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. The course will provide a weekly opportunity to work with various guests providing unique training opportunities in singing, dancing and acting. Topics will include audition technique and will introduce current Broadway trends to those interested in musical theatre.

THEA 201. Voice and Speech for the Actor I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Open only to theatre majors upon satisfactory audition. A study of the basic elements of voice and speech for actors.

THEA 202. Voice and Speech for the Actor II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Continuing study elements of voice and speech and practicing toward competency of applying these skills to text.

THEA 203. Movement for the Actor I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Open only to theatre majors upon satisfactory audition. Practice and study of stage movement for the purpose of creating truthful physical behavior in the theatre.

THEA 204. Movement for the Actor II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Continuing study of creating truthful physical behavior in the theatre, leading toward competency of applying same to characters and text.

THEA 209. Theatrical Rigging. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisite: THEA 103. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. The course will provide a practical introduction to standards and techniques of safe theatrical rigging with an emphasis on safe rigging procedures, load calculations and current industry standards.

THEA 210. Introduction to Stage Combat. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors upon completion of satisfactory audition. An introduction to the techniques and performance of unarmed and armed stage combat sequences for the stage.

THEA 211. Introduction to Drama. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Analysis and critical examination of plays for methods of interpretation and production qualities.

THEA 213. Acting I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Open only to theatre majors upon satisfactory audition. Exploration of the Stanislavski System with particular emphasis on emotional availability, point of view and personalization techniques.

THEA 214. Acting II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 213. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors upon satisfactory audition. Introduction of heightened text with continuing study of point-of-view with personalization, emotional availability and practicing toward competency of basic acting skills.

THEA 215. Live Theatre Now. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online or face-to-face). 3 credits. An introduction to theatre as an art form and live theatrical event. The course is designed to cultivate an appreciation, understanding and critical perception of live theatre performance. Students will study the fundamentals of theatre and the theatrical production process.

THEA 216. Welding for Theatre. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 2 studio hours. 1 credit. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. This course is designed as a practical introduction to safe welding practices and standards.

THEA 217. Theatrical Drafting. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 2 credits. An introduction to the practices and procedures used in communicating technical and design information among a range of theatre practitioners. Focus on traditional hand-drafting techniques.

THEA 218. Introduction to Scene Painting. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. An introduction to fundamental scene painting technique. Students will have the opportunity to study the materials and techniques of scene painting as well as the practices and expectations of a career in scenic artistry.

THEA 219. Fundamentals of Entertainment Technology. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Introduction to the physical science underlying various disciplines of technical theatre.

THEA 221. Introduction to Scene Design. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. An introduction to the theories, practices and procedures of designing for the stage.

THEA 223. Practicum in Theatre Technology. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 9 studio hours. 3, 3 credits. Prerequisites: THEA 103 and THEA 104. Restricted to theatre majors. Advanced study in theatre technologies and the materials and methodologies of stage construction.

THEA 224. Practicum in Theatre Technology. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 9 studio hours. 3, 3 credits. Prerequisites: THEA 103 and THEA 104. Restricted to theatre majors. Advanced study in theatre technologies and the materials and methodologies of stage construction.

THEA 225. Electricity for the Stage. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. A study of the properties and basic principles of electricity as they relate to the utilization of light on the stage. Participation in departmental productions.

THEA 226. Desktop Audio/Video. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 3 studio hours. 2 credits. A basic introduction to desktop audio and video production. Levels of production will be explored from the cheapest solutions to midrange solutions utilizing audio and video equipment working in tandem using nonlinear editors on the computer.

THEA 227. Introduction to Theatrical Makeup. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Teaches basic makeup practices for theatrical work. Students will gain an introductory knowledge of the physiological structure of the human face and how to alter appearance of an actor through the use of stage-makeup and basic prosthetic appliances. These skills will be evaluated through practical applications and studio work.

THEA 228. Introduction to Costume Design. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Introduces students to the costume design process including: the techniques of drawing to aid in facilitating costume design, paperwork required of the costume designer, and costume sketching and painting techniques. Students will employ critical thinking in their evaluation of the costume design process and concurrently be introduced to the skills required in the design process through practical design projects.

THEA 229. Introduction to Lighting Design. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. A study of issues concerning the properties of light and electricity as they relate to theatre including design, composition and color.

THEA 230. Model Building. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. This course will provide students with an in-depth knowledge of basic model-making practices and strategies.

THEA 235. Beginning Stage Management. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An introduction to the art and science of stage management with emphasis on the skills and mechanics necessary to successfully contribute to the theatrical production process.

THEA 237. Advanced Lighting I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 229. An in-depth exploration into development and execution of a lighting design and the lighting potentials of a wide variety of facilities, production styles and lighting equipment. Includes work on development of communication skills with directors via value sketches and lighting plots. Work will include studies and design research, concepts, collaboration, professional procedures and systems, paperwork, and organization. Varies scales of theoretical and practical projects in the light lab.

THEA 251. Rehearsal and Performance I. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 2, 4 or 6 studio hours. 1, 2 or 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum total of 6 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. Work in acting, management, design or technical areas within a TheatreVCU production.

THEA 261. Figure Drawing: Media and Technique. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 2 credits. This course will explore various traditional wet and dry media techniques in depicting representational costume design. Assignments will incorporate applicable references to art history.

THEA 262. Figure Drawing: Advanced Media and Technique. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 261. An advanced course investigating various traditional wet and dry media techniques depicting the human form and costuming. Assignments will incorporate applicable references to the history of art and contemporary developments.

THEA 291. Topics in Theatre. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 workshop hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Enrollment restricted to theatre majors. Flexible semester course in selected aspects of performance, theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

THEA 301. Advanced Voice and Speech for the Actor I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 202. Open only to theatre majors upon satisfactory audition. Building upon lessons and skills practiced in the prerequisite course, an introduction to advanced elements of voice and speech and practicing toward competency of applying these skills to text.

THEA 302. Advanced Voice and Speech for the Actor II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 301. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors with a minimum 2.0 GPA in the major. Continuing study in advanced elements of voice and speech and practicing toward competency of applying these skills to text.

THEA 303. Black Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the major developments in the evolution of black theatre through readings and studio performances in black-related and black theatre dramaturgy. Crosslisted as: AFAM 303.

THEA 305. Scenic Design Studio I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 221. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. A study of the techniques and methods of scene design.

THEA 306. Scenic Design Studio II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 221. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. Advanced study of the techniques and methods of scene design.

THEA 307. History of the Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. A study and analysis of theatre history from Early Greece to the Renaissance: the architecture, the performer and performances, the stage, the production methods, and the audience.

THEA 308. History of the Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. A study and analysis of theatre history from the Renaissance to the late 20th century: the architecture, the performer and performances, the stage, the production methods, and the audience.

THEA 309. History of Costumes. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 3 lecture hours. 3, 3 credits. Illustrated lectures on the history of clothing from primitive times to the present.

THEA 310. History of Costumes. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 3 lecture hours. 3, 3 credits. Illustrated lectures on the history of clothing from primitive times to the present.

THEA 313. Actor's Studio I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Open only to theatre majors upon completion of satisfactory audition. Scene study and exploration of personalized character work as it applies to modern acting.

THEA 314. Actor's Studio II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 313. Enrollment is restricted to theatre students who have successfully completed the sophomore assessment audition. Continuing exploration of personalized character work and heightened text as it applies to modern acting.

THEA 315. Audition Technique. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors with a minimum 2.5 GPA in the major upon satisfactory audition or with permission of instructor. Concentrated work using various techniques and methods of auditioning for the stage, television and film.

THEA 316. Musical Theatre History. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of musical theatre history from its beginnings in vaudeville to the golden age to contemporary musical theatre. Students will gain the necessary skills to do dramaturgical analysis of a musical, as well as historiographical skills and a strengthened understanding of how to write about performance both objectively and subjectively.

THEA 317. Musical Theatre Performance I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Open only to theatre majors upon completion of a satisfactory audition. Development of skills necessary to prepare songs and roles in musical theatre productions.

THEA 318. Musical Theatre Performance II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 317. Open only to theatre majors upon completion of a satisfactory audition. Continuation of the development of skills necessary to prepare songs and roles in musical productions while also developing skills in audition technique and the building of a personal repertoire.

THEA 319. Musical Theatre Dance Styles: Landmark Choreographers. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 1 studio hour. 2 credits. Development of skills necessary to dance and perform in theatre productions. Students will demonstrate an ability in dance basics. An advanced course focusing on the practical application and aesthetic of landmark choreographers of the modern musical theatre. Students will demonstrate and integrate ballet and jazz techniques and apply same to the proper execution of each choreographer.

THEA 320. Structural Design for the Stage. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Introduction to basic structural analysis as applies to theatrical scenic construction and rigging.

THEA 321. Costume Design Studio I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 228. A studio course exploring the practice of the creative techniques, skill-building tools and business processes used according to the practical standards of the industry developed by professional union costume designers.

THEA 322. Costume Design Studio II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 321. Continuing studio course exploring the practice of the creative techniques, skill-building tools and business processes used according to the practical standards of the industry developed by professional union costume designers.

THEA 323. Practicum in Advanced Theatre Technology. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. Advanced study in theatre technologies and technical management.

THEA 324. Practicum in Stage Lighting. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 9 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. Practical application in the methodologies of stage lighting.

THEA 325. Intermediate Stage Management. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 235. Continuing study in the art and science of professional stage management.

THEA 326. Audio Mixing. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum total of nine credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors, those pursuing the sound design minor and others with permission of the instructor. A study of basic mixing theory and ear training to create a completed audio mix for live theatre or concerts.

THEA 327. Computer-assisted Design and Drafting for the Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Instruction and practice in the use of computer assisted design and drafting for the theatre such as preparation and presentation, perspective, rotation, development and graphic solutions pertaining to theatrical construction problems.

THEA 329. Patternmaking for the Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 6 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 105. This course introduces basic patternmaking skills including: sloper development, pattern manipulations employing flat patterning techniques, drafting, scaling and copying of historic garments. This course introduces critical-thinking skills as related to the form, fit and composition of clothing as it relates to the body. Students will apply these skills to practical projects that can relate to a variety of historical period costumes.

THEA 332. Draping for the Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 6 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 329. This course introduces basic draping skills including: sloper development, princess-line and bias garments, and clothing draped over extensive understructures. This course practices critical-thinking skills as related to the form, fit and composition of clothing as it relates to the body. Students will apply these skills to demonstrate specific historical period costumes.

THEA 333. Sound Technology. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors, those pursuing the sound design minor and others with permission of the instructor. This course will explore the concepts between sound, acoustics and our hearing, introducing the student to the basic concepts, equipment and software used to create, reinforce and record sound.

THEA 334. Sound Design for Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors, those pursuing the sound design minor and others with permission of the instructor. Exploration in contemporary practices in sound design for the theatre.

THEA 335. Advanced Movement and Vocal Techniques. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors upon satisfactory audition. A rotating topics course highlighting several performance training methods that link physical and vocal work.

THEA 336. Introduction to Costume Crafts. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 6 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 227. The course will introduce the student to a variety of skills and application methods that are needed for the execution of costume designs in a theatrical production. An overview and basic understanding of these crafts will be explored and practiced during the semester.

THEA 337. Advanced Lighting Design II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 237 with a minimum grade of C. Advanced study of lighting design, incorporating increasingly difficult texts, rep plots, facilities and production styles. Further exploration of the process of lighting design for theatre and other related events. Projects focus intensely on communication and the collaborative process.

THEA 340. Theatre Projects. 3,6 Hours.

Semester courses; 1 or 2 lecture and 4 or 8 laboratory hours. 3 or 6 credits per semester. Open only to theatre majors. Individual or group projects in acting, directing, costume design, stage design or dramaturgy.

THEA 341. Theatre Projects. 3,6 Hours.

Semester courses; 1 or 2 lecture and 4 or 8 laboratory hours. 3 or 6 credits per semester. Open only to theatre majors. Individual or group projects in acting, directing, costume design, stage design or dramaturgy.

THEA 344. Technical Direction I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. Introduction to the methodologies of professional technical direction including budgeting, scheduling, estimating and technical design. Students will employ critical thinking in application to project management and practical technical direction projects.

THEA 345. Technical Direction II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 344. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. Advanced project-based application of methodologies of professional technical direction.

THEA 347. Props Design and Construction. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. A study of procedures and skills needed to be a successful prop master. Topics include organization, research, procurement methods, furniture and ornament history, upholstery and basic furniture repair.

THEA 351. Rehearsal and Performance. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 2, 4 or 6 studio hours. 1, 2 or 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors or by permission of instructor. Work in acting, management, design or technical areas within a TheatreVCU production.

THEA 361. Directing I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Open only to theatre majors. Introduction to and practice in the theories of stage direction.

THEA 362. Directing II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 361. Continuing practice in solving problems involved in the production of period plays and a study of modern theories.

THEA 365. Playwriting. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. Enrollment requires permission of instructor. This course explores the fundamentals of playwriting through the use of Aristotelian and Freytag theories. Using these theories and assigned reading and writing exercises completed in class, the course culminates with the class creating and participating in a public reading of each student's own 10-minute play.

THEA 368. Rendering Techniques. 2 Hours.

Semester course; 4 studio hours. 2 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 262. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. Instruction on skills and tools needed to create sketches as a theatrical designer. Will focus on student's rendering skills and individual presentation style. Will provide experience using different media and rendering techniques. Will also help students analyze and critique their own work and help them, as artists, become better observers.

THEA 373. Photo Manipulation for Theatre. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Introduction to the basic concepts and practices of creating computer-manipulated photo images and documents.

THEA 375. Black Performance Techniques. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 213. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. This advanced performance class is focused on the acting and creative techniques of the Black aesthetic as the first voice/primary perspective.

THEA 385. Diverse Voices. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum total of six credits. A study and analysis of the multicultural literature and practices of the American theatre of the 20th and 21st centuries. Students study plays from multicultural perspectives. An emphasis is placed on the performance techniques utilized by various authors as well as their literary style.

THEA 391. Topics in Theatre. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 1-3 workshop hours. 1-3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Enrollment restricted to theatre majors. Flexible semester course in selected aspects of performance, theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

THEA 405. Advanced Scene Design I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 306. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. This course will focus on the design of multiscene productions with particular attention to moving scenery and storytelling.

THEA 406. Advanced Scenic Design II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 405. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. This advanced course will focus on design for opera, film and/or television. In each case students will conduct research into the origin of the story being examined and adapt those stories to themes that resonate in the current culture. Through the refinement of sketching to rough models and drafting, a package will be assembled to suit the realization of the design.

THEA 407. Advanced Scenic Technique. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: THEA 221 and permission of instructor. An intensive involvement in contemporary theory and practice of scenic techniques. Participation in departmental productions.

THEA 408. Advanced Scene Painting. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Repeatable for a maximum of 12 credits. Practice of fundamental scene painting technique. Students will have the opportunity to study the materials and advanced techniques of scene painting, as well as the practices and expectations of a career in scenic artistry.

THEA 412. Acting for Camera. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 313. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors with a minimum 2.5 GPA in the major upon satisfactory audition or with permission of instructor. Students will learn techniques for approaching acting problems associated with performance in front of a camera.

THEA 413. Actor's Studio III. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 314. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. Students will learn techniques for approaching specific acting problems associated with the performance of various classical acting styles.

THEA 416. Solo Performance. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 4 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 314. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. An exploration of story and personal journey. Students will explore and interrogate a diverse range of solo-performance styles culminating in a solo performance of a "work-in-progress" of between 15 and 30 minutes presented to an audience.

THEA 417. Cabaret Storytelling. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 317. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors upon completion of a satisfactory audition. An exploration of story and personal journey through song.

THEA 418. Advanced Acting for Camera. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 6 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 412. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. This class provides a continuation of acting on camera, preparing the student for work in various formats, including commercials, industrials, television (sitcoms, soap operas, episodic television) and film. Understanding the required professional behavior as well as the variations in acting technique in on-camera skills are emphasized. Students will learn techniques for approaching advanced acting problems associated with performance in front of a camera in these varying mediums. The course will use scene work and the final compiling of a demo reel to expand the knowledge of the field of acting on camera.

THEA 419. Professional Preparation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. This course examines aspects necessary for pursuit of a successful career in various branches of the theatre/film/television profession. Subjects covered include business models, unions, types of jobs available, proper resume preparation, cover letters and artistic statements, agents/managers, etc. The class culminates in the development of a specific plan for next steps after graduation.

THEA 420. Stage Management Seminar. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 435. This course will build upon the skills and knowledge learned in earlier stage management courses. Students will improve and refine their skills in leadership, problem-solving, stress management and conflict resolution, as well as prepare to join the professional industry. Students will learn about and from other industry professionals.

THEA 421. Advanced Costume Design Studio I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: THEA 321 and 322. Advanced studio course exploring the practice of the creative techniques and the practical standards of the industry developed by professional union costume designers.

THEA 422. Advanced Costume Design Studio II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 2 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: THEA 321 and 322. Advanced studio course exploring the practice of the creative techniques and business processes used according to the practical standards of the industry developed by professional union costume designers. During the semester students will create a digital interview-quality portfolio.

THEA 423. Modern Drama. 3 Hours.

Semester courses; 3 lecture hours. 3, 3 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. Intensive study of major continental and American plays.

THEA 426. Advanced Dramatic Writing. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated once for credit. Prerequisite: ENGL 303. A practical approach to the creation of original scripts for theatre or film. Crosslisted as: ENGL 433.

THEA 435. Advanced Stage Management. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Prerequisite: THEA 325. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors. An analysis of the techniques necessary for a successful career as a stage manager, including studying resumes, interview skills, unions and other areas.

THEA 437. Advanced Lighting Design III. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 2 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 337 with a minimum grade of C. Course incorporates increasingly difficult texts, facilities and production styles and alternative venue and production styles, such as landscape lighting and concert. Use of industry standard technology and 3-D rendering is a focus in the class.

THEA 439. Advanced Patterning Techniques I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: THEA 329 and 332. Garment patterning based on various historic periods. Projects emphasize creative solutions to patterning problems employing critical thinking. Skills learned in prerequisite courses will be practiced, developing competency as related to achieving fit, form and function of period garments within the limitations of a given design.

THEA 440. Theatre Projects. 3,6 Hours.

Semester courses; 1 or 2 lecture and 4 or 8 laboratory hours. 3 or 6 credits per semester. Open only to theatre majors. Individual or group projects in acting, directing, costume design, stage design or dramaturgy.

THEA 441. Theatre Projects. 3,6 Hours.

Semester courses; 1 or 2 lecture and 4 or 8 laboratory hours. 3 or 6 credits per semester. Open only to theatre majors. Individual or group projects in acting, directing, costume design, stage design or dramaturgy.

THEA 442. Advanced Patterning Techniques II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 439. Garment patterning based on various historic periods. Projects emphasize creative solutions to patterning problems employing critical thinking. Skills learned in prerequisite course will be practiced and built upon, developing complex understructures for period clothing while practicing competency in patterning and building the period garments, which complement the fit, form and function of these period garments.

THEA 451. Rehearsal and Performance. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; 2, 4 or 6 studio hours. 1, 2 or 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors or by permission of instructor. Work in acting, stage management, design or technical areas within a TheatreVCU production.

THEA 469. Advanced Patterning Techniques III. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 442. Advanced patterning techniques centered on tailoring for students who have completed flat patterning and draping classes. This class explores modern and historical methods of tailoring; lining and finishing are emphasized for stage and costume use. The course assesses the student's competency in skills taught in previous course work.

THEA 470. Advanced Patterning Techniques IV. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 3 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: THEA 469. Exploration of costume patterning with an emphasis on period patterning in a production setting, assessing the basic and advanced knowledge of draping and flatpatterning. This course provides students with intense production projects on VCU Mainstage productions synthesizing all aspects of patterning.

THEA 491. Topics in Theatre. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits per semester. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. Flexible semester course in selected aspects of performance, theory, literature or history. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

THEA 492. Independent Study in Theatre. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits per semester. May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits. Prerequisites: senior standing as a major in theatre and approval of department chair and instructor. Individual instruction and supervision of a special project. Learning experiences should be designed with the supervising faculty member in the form of a contract between student and instructor. This course is limited to those students who have demonstrated an exceptional level of ability and intense commitment to their discipline.

THEA 493. Professional Internship. 3-9 Hours.

Semester courses; 3-9 credits. Restricted to theatre majors. A practicum in theatre conducted in cooperation with selected professional or semi-professional theatre organizations.

THEA 495. Senior Project: Portfolio Review. 1 Hour.

Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Prerequisites: a minimum of 18 credits in 300- or 400-level major courses. Enrollment is restricted to theatre majors with senior standing. A capstone experience integrating resume preparation and professional development within the field of theatre. Documentation of creative activities and achievements accumulated during theatre studies is compiled for a portfolio review. Graded as pass/fail.

Speech

SPCH 121. Effective Speech. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online or face-to-face). 3 credits. Structured speaking and critical listening experiences within the basic forms of speech communication: interpersonal, small group and public. Students may receive credit toward graduation for only one of SPCH 121, SPCH 321 or BUSN 225.

SPCH 221. Oral Communication and Presentation. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The study of oral communication across various mediums and best practices for effectively presenting to diverse groups and in diverse situations.

SPCH 321. Speech for Business and the Professions. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours (delivered online or face-to-face). 3 credits. Theory and practice in the oral communication process. Organization and presentation of informative and persuasive subject matter in professional contexts related to the student's major area of interest. Students may receive credit toward graduation for only one of SPCH 121, SPCH 321 or BUSN 225.